

Listing of claims

1. (Currently amended) A blood processing system comprising

a blood processing set including a source of blood cells, and a blood component collection flow channel coupled to the source of blood cells including a blood cell storage container and an in-line filter to remove leukocytes from the blood cells before entering the blood cell storage container, the in-line filter including a fibrous leukocyte removal filter medium and first and second flexible housings,

a pump station adapted to be placed into communication with the blood component collection flow channel to pump blood into the blood cell storage container through the in-line filter, and

a separate restraining structure contacting an outer surface of each of the first and second flexible housings to restrain the outward expansion of said housings under pressure applied during operation of the pump station.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) A blood processing system according to claim 1 wherein the source of blood cells includes a donor flow channel including a blood separation device to separate blood cells from donor whole blood.
4. (Original) A blood processing system according to claim 1 wherein the source of blood cells includes a donor flow channel including a blood separation device to separate blood cells from donor whole blood.

5. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 further comprising a controller wherein the controller includes a function to derive a value reflecting volume of blood cells present in the blood cell storage container after passage through the filter as a percentage of volume of blood cells conveyed to the filter.
6. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 wherein the pump station includes a fluid pressure actuated pump and an actuator to apply fluid pressure to the pump.
7. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 wherein the blood cells comprise red blood cells.
8. (Currently amended) A method of processing blood comprising the steps of providing the blood processing system as defined in claim 1 or 2 or 3 or 4, pumping blood cells through the in-line filter, and conveying blood cells from said filter into the blood cell storage container.

Claims 9-35 (Cancelled).

Claim 36 (New): A blood processing system according to claim 1 wherein the leukocyte filter comprises a fibrous filter medium.